



Pruning, Fertilization & Planting
Large Scale
Transplanting
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Accredited Member of the
Tree Care Industry Association

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Former President of the Baton Rouge
Landscape Association

Live Oaks at W Thomas Railroad Hammond, LA

Roy,

After reviewing the trees and your preliminary plans for the projected construction project, I feel with confidence that these trees will do fine provided proper measures are taken place to remediate current conditions, an effective tree management and preservation plan is implemented and that this plan held with regard. The live oaks current state is **fair to good**. Their lack of terminal growth can be due to a growth regulator treatment done in 2018, the trees age, location and current site conditions. Keep in mind, this growth regulator treatment has an efficacy of up to 3 years. I am recommending the following provisions be put in place for this project:

1. A certified ISA Arborist is hired to implement plans for tree preservation, soil remediation and proper drainage prior to any construction taking place.
2. That hired Tree Care Firm is to manage and supervise the project throughout its duration and thereafter.
3. That all excavation be minimally invasive and shall either be supervised or performed by Licensed Louisiana Arborist.
4. Any non-significant root pruning, tree trimming, liquid treatments, soil or mulch application, fertility treatments, soil amending or anything that is to directly affect the soil conditions underneath the dripline of the trees shall be performed or supervised by the hired Arborist.

If anything, this project will bring more needed attention to these live oaks. One example is you are proposing removing a large portion of the asphalt road on the Eastern side of the trees and allowing that area to be open ground for future water and nutrient uptake for the trees. With proper drainage in place for that area, it can only help these live oaks and allow them to further develop more fibrous, absorbing root systems. This will better help these live oaks develop more canopy thus allowing the trees to produce more food and overall become healthier. Again, provided that any excavation be minimal, proper steps are taken for tree preservation and proper drainage is achieved, I see nothing wrong with moving forward on this project.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Benton
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